

RT. REV. LEO HAID, O.S. B., D. D.
Abbot-Ordinary and Bishop

1885

U. I. O. G. D.

1910

A SHORT SKETCH

of

BELMONT ABBEY

the

Canonical Erection of the Abbatia Nullius

and the

SILVER ABBATIAL JUBILEE

of

Rt. Rev. Leo Haid, D. D., O. S. B.

1910

BELMONT ABBEY PRESS

Belmont, N. C.

274

Dedicated respectfully

to

His Excellency, Most Rev. Diomedede Falconio,
Apostolic Delegate to the United States

and to our

Patrons, Friends and Benefactors

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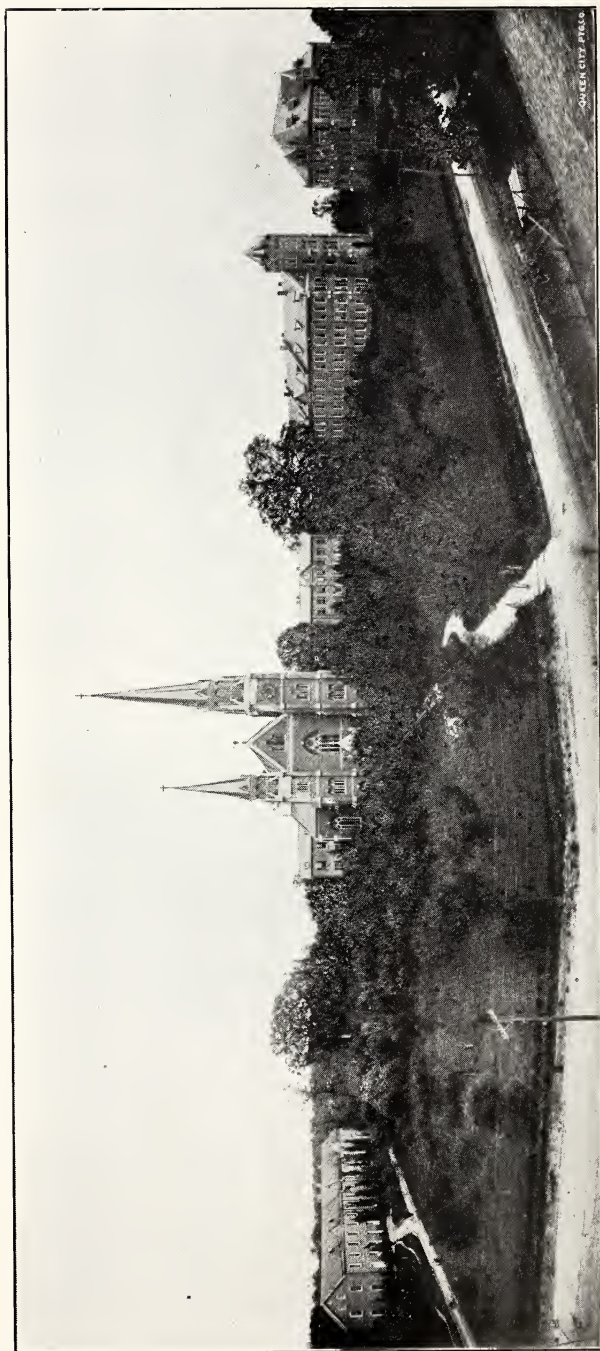
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General View of Belmont Abbey



Twenty-five Years in Belmont Abbey

(By Mr. R. W. Vincent in the "Charlotte Observer")

Just beyond the Catawba River, ten miles southwest of Charlotte, the Southern Railway touches Belmont. It is an enterprising and flourishing little town, with several cotton mills, a bank, department stores and handsome residences, and it enjoys an enviable distinction in mercantile circles. One mile to the north of the village is situated the now famous Belmont Abbey. A well-kept highway leads to it, and the Abbey is reached after passing through an avenue of fine shade trees. Massive buildings, Gothic spires surmounting the cathedral and beautiful lawns greet the stranger. The greatest Catholic college in the South Atlantic States is attached to the Abbey; add to it a library of many thousands of volumes, an extensive model farm, stretching itself over nearly a thousand acres, with fine herds of choicest cattle, artistically kept parks, athletic fields, an electric light plant, water-works of unsurpassed excellence, shops for every sort of trade, and you have Belmont Abbey. It is also the residence of the Catholic Bishop of North Carolina, who unites to this dignity that of a Benedictine abbot. Bishop Leo Haid, a man beloved of all, and revered in the entire South, will soon have passed the milestone of one-fourth of a century in his able administration. His influence and sterling qualities have brought it about that Belmont has been raised to the dignity of a Cathedral Abbey, unique in America, and the only one holding perpetually its own jurisdiction over a specified territory.

The history of Belmont leads back to those days which followed closely upon the termination of the war in the Southland. Like a prairie fire, this civil strife had devastated the flourishing land between the Chesapeake and the Gulf. With the land and the people, the Church, too, suffered, especially in North Carolina. It was in 1876, when the first Benedictines, those men who contributed so much to the civilization of Europe, especially in the British Isles, hastened South, where, by their diligent labors, zeal and noble self-sacrifice, they co-operated with the Southern priesthood in aiding the suffering Church. The territory was very large and the Missionaries were very few, too few—noble and hard-working men though they were—to care for the widely scattered missions. It was for this reason that the Benedictines' advent into North Carolina was so eagerly hailed by all concerned in the welfare of the Church in the State.

Belmont Abbey was established under such unfavorable circumstances that it is wonderful that it should ever have been so successful, for twenty-five years ago, when this monastic institution was founded, North Carolina was the most thoroughly Non-Catholic State in the Union and, moreover, far distant from the centres of Catholicism. Again, the people were Protestants; they had a religion and loved it, but war, as it had devastated their plantations, ruined transportation, interfered with the education and demolished their government, had also blinded their reason. Bigotry and ignorance of Catholicism swayed the otherwise generous and noble-minded people, and the progress of the Benedictines was greatly checked in the beginning by barriers which often seemed insurmountable. The poor people of North Carolina misunderstood the visitors and failed to recognize in them the men whose influence should do so much in restoring peace, in healing the wounds of the war and in spreading Catholic education, which had just begun to flourish in the South when the war broke out, and, like everything else, had been abandoned in the fight for personal freedom.

In the year 1876 two propositions were placed before the Chapter of St. Vincent's, the Benedictine arch-abbey at Beatty, Pa. One was a Western university, very promising, with a liberal guarantee, and the other a plantation or wilderness in the woods of North Carolina. The plantation was a gift to the Vicar Apostolic Gibbons (now



St. Vincent Archabbey, Beatty, Pa.

Cardinal and Archbishop of Baltimore) from the Rev. Jeremiah O'Connell. To the great amazement of all the South, the proposition was accepted and a band of Benedictines was sent South immediately to found a monastery on the site known as "Caldwell's Place," in Gaston County.

Amidst these natural disadvantages, for the locality was most uninviting, and the natives rather hostile to these intruders, as they considered them, little progress could reasonably be expected; but, with the blessing of the Divine, the colony prospered. The monks dwelt in a log cabin, built a frame chapel (which was dedicated to Mary, Help of Christians, by Abbot Wimmer on his first visit in 1876) erected a small brick college and began at once the task of instructing the Catholic boys of the South. The attendance at first was small and the work of sustaining the college was most difficult, but, by "work and prayer", the Benedictine motto, they succeeded in time.

In 1884 the Southern Benedictine missions—Richmond and Savannah—were made independent from St. Vincent, Pa., and added to Belmont as their center, and it was proposed to erect it into an Abbey. Pope Leo XIII, only too willing to reward the diligent labors and zeal of the Arch-Abbot Wimmer and his faithful followers, gladly confirmed the arrangement by Papal Brief and gave the monastery its official title. This was a great honor to so hopeless and indigent an abbey, which could not at that time claim a single priest as its own and show but bare possibilities of ever sending forth home-instructed priests.

Following closely upon the elevation of the Belmont mission to an abbey, the arch-abbot at St. Vincent's called his ordination class of clerics, spoke to them of the Southern missions in glowing terms, impressed them with the lofty zeal, noble work and self-sacrifice pleasing to God, which would accompany such an undertaking; asked them to show the true qualities that should characterize the faithful follower of Christ and son of St. Benedict, and then called for volunteers. Thus was the new community formed—of several Benedictines already stationed in the South, four priests, four sub-deacons and two clerics, volunteered from St. Vincent's.

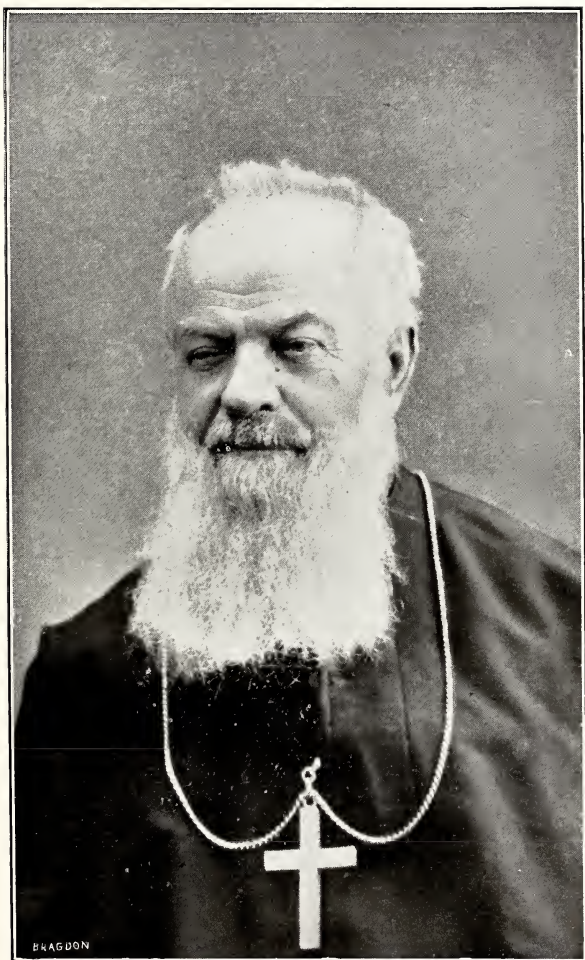
The next important event in the history of the abbey was the election of an abbot. This was done on July 14 of the same year,

and the choice fell upon the assistant rector of St. Vincent College and one of the ablest professors—Father Leo Haid, O.S.B. Thus was selected one of St. Vincent's most worthy and faithful sons, who though young in years was already old in apostolic zeal, and who burned with that monastic spirit and noble self-sacrifice of the true missionary, which most aptly suited him for the difficult task of governing Belmont Abbey.

In due time the election of Abbot Leo Haid was confirmed by the Holy See, and on the 26th of November, 1885—Thanksgiving Day—in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, at Charleston, S. C., the solemn Abbatial benediction bestowed by Bishop Northrop, then Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina, interested all of Catholic America, for it was the most important ceremony of the kind ever witnessed in the Carolinas, and was truly a sign that Catholicism in the Old North State was revived.

Abbot Leo immediately assumed his duties as abbot. His personal supervision of every department, whether it was the class room, the choir or the missions, evoked widespread admiration and showed how well he was suited for the post. On May 4, 1886, Abbot Leo laid the corner-stone of St. Mary's College. The ceremonies, never before witnessed by the natives of this section, were of great interest, and the people, both white and black, hastened to take part in the event. In the course of a few years St. Mary's grew until, when completed, it afforded accommodations for a hundred students, and the earnest wish of the youthful abbot was fulfilled. The same year witnessed the rebuilding and enlargement of the frame chapel and its rededication on Christmas day. The fame of the institution spread. Students from all States came flocking in, and a number of young men, attracted by the example, and led by a Divine power, asked admission into the community, to be enrolled as sons of the great founder of the Benedictine Order, and thus be enabled to assist in the work of educating and instructing the Catholic youth of the South.

About this period in the history of Belmont Abbey some opposition was raised by the North Carolina Presbyterian Convention which looked dangerous. The wonderful and rapid growth of the monastery caused the Convention great consternation, and it passed many violent resolutions to oust the "Romish encroachment and usurpation" of territory, hitherto wholly and exclusively Protestant.



Rt. Rev. Archabbot Boniface Wimmer, O.S.B.

Amid these declamations and harangues of some ill-advised preachers, the Benedictines continued to "pray and work" with their characteristic silence and diligence. The Convention, finding no opposition, gradually ceased troubling the Catholics and the abbey continued to grow and prosper in peace.

Soon after, on December 7, 1887, word was received from Rome that Abbot Leo had been appointed Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina. The honor, unsought and undesired by the recipient, proved a great joy to the institution and its connections. The report was confirmed by Archbishop Gibbons, of Baltimore, and the tidings were sent immediately to St. Vincent's that all might rejoice in the elevation to the Vicariate of one of their own number. The news came while the good old Archabbot was dying, and he expired on the following day, expressing his sincerest congratulations to the Abbot Leo for the singular honor bestowed upon him.

The churchmen of the South were not surprised. They knew that the good works and diligent efforts of Abbot Leo would not be overlooked in the appointment of a Vicar Apostolic. The episcopal consecration took place in the Cathedral of Baltimore on July 1, 1888. Cardinal Gibbons officiated as consecrating Bishop and was assisted by Bishop Northrop, of Charleston, and Bishop Becker, of Savannah. Benedictines from far and near flocked to witness the consecration of their younger brother in Christ, and by their very presence gave evidence of the joy they felt in the distinguished honor conferred upon a son of St. Benedict. On July 14, in St. Thomas Pro-Cathedral, at Wilmington, N. C., the newly consecrated Bishop was solemnly enthroned by Cardinal Gibbons.

In the history of Belmont Abbey important events followed in rapid succession. The College was enlarged in 1889; the forest gave place to fertile plantations under the diligent laboring hands of the lay brothers; stables, barns and other outbuildings were erected, modern improvements installed in both College and Monastery, and everything showed progress.

In August, 1890, Bishop Haid was elected president by the Annual Chapter of the Cassinese Congregation. He held the office for two terms, but owing to the many important duties laid upon the Bishop-abbot he was forced to decline a third nomination.

The next important happenings in the abbey's life were the laying of the corner-stone of the new Abbey Church on St. Patrick's Day, 1892, and then the dedication, on St. Leo's Day, 1894, by Cardinal Gibbons. Many bishops, abbots and priests from every part of the country were present to witness the dedication ceremonies. The abbey church is a beautiful specimen of Gothic architecture, built of brick and granite trimmings. The cost of erecting the edifice, aside from the labor of the monks themselves, approaches closely upon \$40,000. The stained glass windows alone are considered the finest in America, for they won the first prize at the World's Fair at Chicago in 1893. The interior is beautified by beautiful mural decorations, paintings, and five altars, all in keeping with the general plan of the church.

In the following year the monastery was again enlarged and place made for the accommodation of more students in the college. These and many minor improvements placed Belmont Abbey among the first of monastic institutions in the South. A beautiful reproduction of the Grotto of Lourdes was built in 1890 and, with all the pomp and ceremony of the Catholic Church, dedicated the following year. Gradual improvements have been made here in the past few years and at present the Grotto is one of the finest and most artistic of its kind in America. It is now a place of great interest to visitors and to the devotionally inclined, and especially in May, a retreat for prayers and devotions.

The rapid growth and flourishing condition of the abbey was, however, checked in 1900, when, on May 19th, a terrible fire broke out. The flames were discovered at 4 A. M., while the monks were at matins. All hastened immediately to check the mad rush of the conflagration, which, fanned by a heavy wind, was rapidly destroying the college. The work of the fire-fighters was, however, of no avail. While the fire was at its height and the flames raged and threatened the destruction of the whole institution, the wind shifted its course and the fire died out gradually. Though two-thirds of the college had been destroyed, the monastery remained untouched. News of the disaster spread rapidly and through the generous aid received from all sides, Protestant friends in Charlotte alone donating \$5000, there arose from the ashes of the old a more beautiful college.

Three years ago a large gymnasium, valued at \$35,000, was erected. It is a brick structure of three stories and contains besides the gymnasium proper an auditorium with a fully equipped stage, music rooms, band hall, six recreation parlors, painting, typewriting and athletic rooms, and all modern improvements—bath rooms, steam heating and electric lights. Together with this handsome edifice the buildings all told now represent probably \$250,000. It is indeed a wonderful transformation that twenty-five years made; from a log cabin in a wilderness to the handsome buildings which now grace the site of Belmont Abbey. How eloquently this speaks of the wonderful progress made by the promoter of Catholic instruction in the "Land of the Sky."

The foregoing, in brief, is a history of the development of Belmont Abbey under the able leadership of its worthy and saintly abbot, Bishop Leo Haid.

It must not, however, be supposed that the Benedictines concentrated their efforts in the missionary work alone, though any one visiting Belmont Abbey cannot feel but convinced that sufficient work for one-quarter of a century has surely been done in the Old North State. Notwithstanding this monks were sent from Belmont to Virginia, Georgia and Florida, where through their earnest application they have built churches, schools and other institutions, which now stand as monuments to the noble labors of all those Catholics, whether laity or clergy, who have united to instruct the Catholic South. These institutions are branch houses of Belmont. The motto selected for the Abbot of Belmont was "Crescat"; the armorial design, a pine tree, whose spreading branches are the symbolic fulfilment of the original intention of planting and spreading Catholicism in the South. A short sketch of these branch houses, since they are so closely united with the mother-house at Belmont, will therefore not be out of place.

St. Leo's Abbey.—In 1889 Bishop Leo Haid visited the poor Catholic colony of St. Antonio in Florida, a mission which had become the property of Belmont Abbey, since it was too destitute to support itself. Charmed with the locality and with the prospects of finding a promised land, the Bishop accepted forty acres of land on the shore of Lake Janita and sent several of his priests to the new site to build up the mission. A college was built, and a little later a monastery, which in 1902 was raised to the dignity of an abbey, with the Rev. Charles Mohr as abbot.

Richmond.—In 1860 St. Mary's Church, with a congregation mostly of German Catholics, was placed in charge of the Benedictines. The Rev. Father Polk, S.J., then pastor of St. Mary's was called to Georgetown and he desired that the congregation belong to some religious order, and thus the change was brought about. Father Polk appealed to Archabbot Wimmer and the result was that the Rev. F. Leonard Mayer, O. S. B., was sent to Richmond as the first Benedictine pastor. Father Leonard was an eloquent preacher, an accomplished musician and a man of great kindness and force of character, and through thirteen years of arduous labor he won the esteem and love of all. Even now his memory is still cherished by the Richmond people.

Among the Benedictine pastors of St. Mary's mention must be made of the Rev. Willibald Baumgartner, O. S. B., who was pastor from 1885-1900. During this period St. Mary's was incorporated into and became a dependent of Belmont Abbey. Father Willibald built the present priory and school buildings, erected an academy for girls and improved the Catholic cemetery.

The Rev. Father William Mayer, O. S. B., was the next pastor, but he died after a brief pastorate March 14, 1904.

The Rev. Edward Meyer, O. S. B., succeeded Father William as pastor in April, 1904. Like his worthy predecessors, Father Edward worked tirelessly and diligently, and to him is due much of the spiritual and material progress of St. Mary's. He paid off an immense debt and thereby removed a heavy burden from the shoulders of his parishioners. Father Edward also enlarged the convent for the Benedictine Sisters, installed modern improvements in all the buildings, and remodelled the church both interiorly and exteriorly at the expense of \$17,000. However, by dint of exertion, he cleared the church from all debt, and it was a true cause of rejoicing on December 8, 1905, when St. Mary's celebrated its golden jubilee.

St. Joseph's, Bristow, Va. — A large tract of land south of Washington, D. C., taking up in part the historical battle-field of Bull Run, was offered to Belmont Abbey in 1890 as a site for the erection of an industrial school for boys and girls. Unusual as the proposal was for the Benedictines, they accepted and the offer was confirmed by Pope Leo XIII. Father Julius, O. S. B., was chosen



Benedictine College, Savannah, Ga.

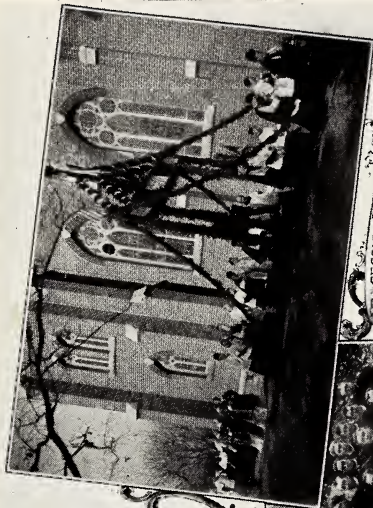
to undertake the difficult task of erecting this institution, which has since, under his able management, developed into the beautiful and prospering establishment known as St. Joseph's Institute and St. Maur's Priory. Laboring under great difficulties arising from extreme poverty and lack of funds, the task was very discouraging. But by diligence and perseverance the prior and his co-religious, assisted by financial aid from outside friends, finally succeeded in establishing a prosperous and self-supporting institution. The Benedictine nuns also secured a site near St. Joseph's Institute and erected a large and beautiful academy, which has since surpassed all expectations. This Benedictine settlement is one of the most promising in America: it is near the National Capital, which fact greatly enhances the value of its lands, which comprise about two thousand acres.

Savannah, Ga.—Since the founding of Belmont Abbey the tree has never ceased to grow and we therefore need not be surprised to learn that it has also spread its branches over the state of Georgia. It was by Apostolic favor that Benedictine missions in Georgia were transferred to the newly built Belmont Abbey. There was the Sacred Heart Church, a struggling mission at Savannah, which could number but a few hundred Catholics. On the Isle of Skidaway was a colored mission which was also included in the Sacred Heart parish. This island mission was transferred to the city when St. Benedict's Church, exclusively for colored Catholics of Savannah, was built. When the Benedictines took hold of the Sacred Heart parish many and heavy obstacles had to be overcome before the church could be placed upon a secure foundation. But they succeeded; the congregation had increased rapidly and soon gave evidence of wonderful prosperity. The Rev. Father Aloysius O'Hanlon, O. S. B., was appointed as rector in 1899, and with him came an infusion of new spiritual progress. An energetic movement was begun for still greater improvement of the parish. In 1901 a military college was established by the Rt. Rev. Leo Haid and the energetic and much experienced Father Bernard Haas, O. S. B., was appointed to the office of rector, which he still holds. The site, however, of the church and college on Habersham Street was very inconvenient and unsuitable. The parish was increasing so rapidly that it was found necessary to go to the expense of buying a valuable tract of land on Bull Street. In 1902 the corner-stone of the present handsome church of the Sacred

Heart was laid by the Rt. Rev. Ordinary Bishop Keily, D.D. In two years' time the beautiful church, the rectory and the spacious college were completed. The college has been incorporated as a Georgia Military Academy and the roll-call of students has been increasing amazingly in the past six years. This group of buildings, imposing as they are, is an ornament to the city, a sign of lasting proof of the zeal and the nobly sacrificed toil of the men who were sent there to spread the Catholic doctrine in Dixie.

We have now dwelt at some length upon the histories of the branch-houses of Belmont Abbey. We saw how they have grown from beginnings destitute and almost hopeless into the finest supports and institutions of the Catholic religion and Catholic education. The choice of "Crescat" for a motto was most aptly made. It is after all the logical result of the Benedictine spirit of "work and prayer." The pine tree has grown with wonderful rapidity, in strength, size and endurance. Indeed, the Abbey is a great institution and the mother of a noble offspring. The Southern Benedictine Society has become a power, and the Catholic South is greatly indebted to it. May it continue long the work so well begun, and may it live to reap the fruits of its twenty-five years of toil and labor, and may the noble Benedictine Fathers ever enjoy the favor and blessings of the God for love of Whom they have given up all, and taken up the cross to follow their divine Leader—the Founder of Christianity.

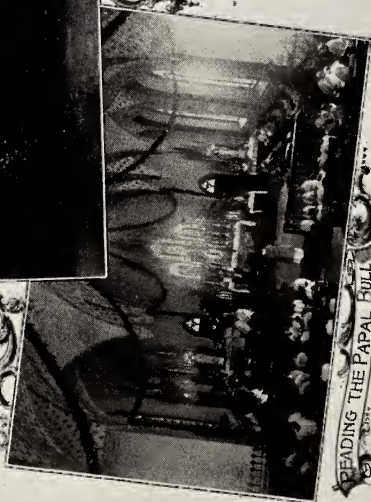




PROCESSION RETURNING FROM CHURCH



ASSEMBLED GUESTS



READING THE PAPAL HULL

Solemn Erection of the "Abbatia Nullius"

October 18, 1910

(Rev. G. W. Woods in the "Catholic Standard and Times")

In the past score of years the Abbey Church at Belmont, N. C., has been the scene of much magnificent pomp and ceremony as occasion gave rise and reason to carry out the beautiful liturgical ceremonials of the Catholic Church. Never, however, in the history of North Carolina, nay, of the whole of the Southland, has the ceremony of Tuesday, October 18, been eclipsed. The reason therefore is unique in the annals of Catholicity on this side of the Atlantic.

Pope Pius X has seen fit to confer on Right Rev. Abbot Haid, O. S. B., D. D., of Belmont Abbey, a signal proof of his personal regard and of his hearty approval of the work of the Abbot-Bishop in his almost twenty-five years' administration of Catholic affairs in the Old North State. This honor is nothing less than the official erection of Belmont Abbey into an "Abbatia Nullius," or Cathedral Abbey, having its own domain and jurisdiction therein, subject only to the authority of the Holy Father himself. The ceremony of Tuesday was consequent upon the official promulgation of the papal decree.

Preparations of the most elaborate kind had been made for the occasion. The abbey buildings, St. Mary's College, Sacred Heart College, and the principal places of business in town had been profusely and beautifully decorated. Intertwined with the Papal colors, white and gold, were the orange and black of St. Mary's, the blue and white of Sacred Heart and the tri-color of patriotism. Great arches of sweet-smelling cedar, gaudy with flags and the Papal colors, and bearing such mottoes as "1885—Jubilare Deo—1910," "Ecce Sacerdos Magnus," "Welcome to Belmont," had been erected at the various approaches, and lent an air of joy and gladness to the surroundings.

From far and near the dignitaries and prelates of the Church, the regular and secular clergy, the personal friends of the honored abbot and the laity generally had gathered, so that the large seating capacity of the church was taxed to its utmost.

Promptly on the hour the procession left the main entrance of the abbey for the church. First came the bearer of the abbey cross, Rev. Father Mark, O. S. B., attended by a retinue of altar boys and acolytes. The visiting clergy, secular and religious, were next in order, followed by the Monsignori and Right Reverend Bishops, who had gathered, to honor by their presence, their friend and host, the Right Reverend Abbot-Bishop. Immediately thereafter came the archiepiscopal cross, borne by Rev. Father Gallagher; the deacons of honor, Rev. Fathers Thomas and Bernard, O. S. B.; the sub-deacon of the Mass, Rev. Father James, O. S. B.; the deacon of the Mass, Rev. Father Eugene, O. S. B.; the archpriest, Very Rev. Father Polycarp, O. S. B., and the Most Reverend celebrant. The guest of honor, Most Reverend Diomede Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, the Holy Father's representative and the bearer of the new decree, was to celebrate the Solemn Pontifical Mass.

An imposing sight it was indeed. The cross-bearers in their golden vestments, the red and black cassocks and the white surplices of the acolytes, the clergy in beautiful surplices, often of costly lace, the glowing colors of purple worn by the Monsignori and the Bishops, the quiet, contrasting habit of the abbot, the rich red vestments of the assistant priest and of the deacons, and the soft, clinging gray cassock train of the Papal Delegate, made a picture one must see to appreciate. Down the flower-bordered walks the procession wended its way, through avenues lined with stately cedars, under the arches of welcome and on into the church. A hush fell on the assembled multitude; the sweet strains of the orchestra broke out into the Festal March as silently, grandly the procession moved on into the sanctuary.

Imagine a church which is a beautiful example of the finest gothic architecture; embellish it with lofty walls and large, imposing windows, the most beautiful product of the artist in stained glass; picture to yourself the vaulted dome of a ceiling so far aloft that one's thoughts naturally rise therefrom to heaven; paint for your-

self the mental picture of a noble sanctuary, and therein a high altar of the most devotional and artistic beauty, glittering with a myriad of lights, heavy with the fragrance of countless roses, and beautifully decorated with potted plants; flank that sanctuary on the left with the throne of the celebrant, and on the right with the thrones of the assisting Bishops; make gorgeous the picture by including the rich red and gold vestments of the celebrant and his assistants, and over all spread an air of deep silence, of reverence and devotion, and perhaps you may be able to catch something of the spirit that overwhelmed your correspondent and moved him to utter: "Indeed, it is good for us to be here; here is the house of God."

But now we no longer see the slight figure in gray, for the Most Reverend celebrant has been clothed in the Mass vestments, and these, like those of his assistants, are of the same regal color. Today is the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, and his death is thus commemorated by the color of the vestments.

Capped with the miter and carrying in his hand the shepherd's crook or crozier, emblems of his spiritual authority, the Most Reverend celebrant proceeds from the throne to the foot of the altar. Then the Mass begins—the soft, sweet strains of the Introit, sung by the Gregorian choir, mingling with the Confiteor of the ministers. Now the altar is incensed, great clouds of fragrant odor ascending in honor of the Most High. The glad, joyful notes of the "Gloria" are succeeded by the Gradual, and the sub-deacon advances to read the epistle appointed for the day. The deacon receives the Most Reverend celebrant's blessing, and as the strains of the Alleluja die softly away proceeds to read the gospel. A closing burst of harmony marks the end of the Credo. A moment later the altar is again incensed, and now a hush of reverent stillness hangs over the scene, compelling, as it were, the attention and devotion of the worshippers. The Sacred Host is consecrated; the Word becomes the food of men's souls. Somewhere a bell tingles sweetly, as in momentary adoration of the Real Presence the celebrant kneels in humble homage. Oh, it thrills every fibre of one's being!

The kiss of peace is given; the Holy Communion is made; the blessing of God on the assemblage is invoked; the second gospel is read; the Mass is over.

At the close of the Mass Right Rev. Abbot Charles, O.S.B., of St. Leo's, Florida, read the decree of erection whereby the honor to Belmont Abbey was conveyed. In clear, bell-like tones, wonderfully distinct, every word falling separately on the hearing, it was a pleasure to listen to the language of Cicero, read by the eloquent abbot. The reading of the document finished, the Apostolic Delegate paid an honest, glowing tribute to the Benedictine Order. Taking for his subject the life and labors of St. Benedict, he drew in vivid colors a picture of the times and the conditions under which the saint lived and labored, and the wonderful success with which God had blessed his efforts. The humble beginnings of Subiaco and Monte Cassino were to increase as the Scriptural grain of mustard seed, and the small handful of followers who at first associated themselves with their founder were to become a legion. Europe in particular and civilization in general can never even estimate, much less repay, the debt they owe to the labors of St. Benedict and his sons. Popes, kings, emperors, princes, queens, the nobility and the humblest of the laity alike donned the Benedictine habit and took upon them the Benedictine rule. True to their motto, "Ora et Labora," they covered the land with institutes of learning and houses sacred to the worship of God.

For the Right Reverend Abbot-Bishop, who by his prayers and labors has wrought so untiringly and successfully for the past quarter of a century in the South, the speaker had words of the highest praise. As a man and as a friend he loved him; as a priest and monk he revered him as a true son of St. Benedict.

Bishop Haid responded as follows: "Your Excellency, Right Reverend and reverend fathers, dear friends: We deeply appreciate the honor. At the same time our hearts are filled with joy as we tender our filial thanks to His Holiness Pope Pius X—God bless him!—for the great dignity conferred on our monastery by bestowing on it the singular rank of a cathedral abbey. If our poor efforts in the past have in any measure merited this distinction, we hope and pray that devotion to duty in the future will be an assurance that we are not ungrateful. To Your Excellency, not only as the personal and official representative of our august Pontiff, but also for your own great kindness, we offer our sincerest thanks. Your canonical promulgation of our Holy Father's generous act, as well as your highly appreci-

ated sentiments of good-will, will ever be to us a well-spring of grateful remembrance.

"Our happiness is crowned by the presence of the Right Reverend Bishops of the Baltimore province. One only cannot be here, but he is with us in desire and heart. I need not say why, Right Reverend brother Bishops, your presence today is so consoling. We feel you heartily approve the Holy Father's act. What more could words express? He will rejoice when our letter of thanks brings this to his notice. It has ever been the glory of our holy Order, and the true spirit breathed into its very heart by St. Benedict, to honor and obey those whom the Holy Ghost has chosen to govern the Church of God. Rest assured this real Benedictine spirit will never be wanting in the members of Belmont Abbey.

"Need I say, reverend and dear fathers, many of you have come from great distances to grace our jubilee, that we feel very grateful to all? We are glad to share our joy with you. From my heart, Your Excellency, Right Reverend and reverend fathers and dear friends, I bid you welcome to the silver jubilee of Belmont Cathedral Abbey."

Again the orchestra broke forth in melody, playing the Pontifical march as, taking up the recessional, the procession left the sanctuary and returned by the same route to the main entrance of the abbey. The main feature of the ceremony was over.

Among the guests were noted the following: Most Rev. Diomedea Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to the United States; Right Rev. Bishop Northrop, of Charleston; Right Rev. Bishop Monaghan, of Wilmington; Right Rev. Bishop Keiley, of Savannah; Right Rev. Bishop Corrigan, of Baltimore; Right Rev. Abbot Charles, O.S.B., of St. Leo's, Florida; Right Rev. Mgr. Decker, of Erie, Pa.; Very Rev. F. Felix, O.S.B., D.D.; Very Rev. Ignatius Lissner, L.A.M.; Very Rev. Fathers Julius, Alexius, Polycarp, Bernard, and Edward, all of the Order of St. Benedict; Rev. Fathers Thomas, Willibald, Gregory, Leo, Joseph, Ignatius, Eugene, Vincent, James, William, Raphael, Michael, Charles, Alphonse, Augustine and Francis, all of the Order of St. Benedict.

The secular clergy were represented by Rev. Fathers Price, Budds, Dennen, Schadewell, Hickey, McNamara, Reddin, Fleming, Callahan, Gallagher, Wehrle, Marion, Irwin, Lanigan, O'Brien, Thompson, Gwynn, Hannon, McCarthy, Whearty and Dillon.

The Jubilee Banquet tendered the visiting clergy in the afternoon proved a most formal and elaborate affair. Father Ignatius, the Reverend Procurator, personally superintended the service and his management reflected the greatest credit upon himself and the Abbey.

The dining hall was tastefully decorated with garlands and streamers, greatly enhancing the beauty of an already beautiful monastic refectory.

There were no formal toasts, but Monsignor Falconio and Bishop Haid spoke in a happy vein. Bishop Northrop, too, delighted all present with his very witty remarks, the guests applauding again and again. Rev. F. Felix, Prior, read several cablegrams and telegrams of congratulations. Monsignor Decker's speech closed the occasion.

Mgr. Falconio returned to his home in Washington, D. C., at 5.30 P. M. accompanied by V. Rev. F. Edward, O. S. B.

From the students' point of view, one of the most enjoyable affairs incidental to the Jubilee Celebration, was the banquet tendered the boys by our Right Reverend Bishop on Thursday, Oct. 20th.

The refectory was elaborately decorated for the occasion, flags and streamers of bunting being used with pretty effect.

As the Bishop entered, accompanied by the Fathers Thomas, McCarthy, Dillon and Raphael, he was given an ovation. The Bishop responded in a few kind words, and concluded by graciously declaring the afternoon free, an announcement that at all times tends to aid digestion.





The Rt. Rev. Jubilarian and Visiting Prelates.

Rt. Rev. Abbot Athanasius
Rt. Rev. Abbot Innocent

Rt. Rev. Bishop Leo Haad
Rt. Rev. Abbot Charles

Rt. Rev. Abbot Ernest
Rt. Rev. Abbot Bernard

Rt. Rev. Bishop Regis Canevin
Rt. Rev. Abbot Leander

On the Silver Jubilee

of

Right Reverend Leo Haid, D. D., O. S. B.

Bishop and Abbot of Belmont,
Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina

1885 - 1910

Since on Cassino's sacred, storied height

Rose the great Order, that in God's design
Was o'er the western world to spread the light
And saving graces of a faith divine,

To form from pagan races, wild and fierce,

The nations that should bear the glorious name
Of Christendom, name fraught with power to pierce
All hearts that own its majesty of fame,

And in this Realm of Christ to lay the great

Foundation stones, on which might proudly rise
In stately order all that makes a state
Strong with true strength, and in high justice wise,

Long years have passed—a thousand years and more—

And yet we see, as if immortal youth
Had been the gift of those far days of yore
Filled with heroic labors for God's truth,

The Sons of Benedict still going forth,

As strong in vigor and in ardent zeal
As when from east to west, from south to north,
In that old Roman world of fire and steel,

They first went out to win new lands for Christ,

To dare all dangers and endure all loss,
Counting all gain, if but their strength sufficed
To draw men's hearts to bend before His cross,

Apostles still, as when at Gregory's word
Augustine led his monks to Britain's strand,
Or when their keels the stormy waters stirred
Of the far isles beyond the northern land.

And as of old, where'er the need is most,
The hardship greatest, and the promise least
Of earth's reward, sublimely still engrossed
In their high purpose, which has never ceased,

Unhesitant they come, as here they came,
In answer to the appealing cry for aid,
Which to their ears had the compelling claim
That poverty and weakness ever made.

As soldiers called to face a hope forlorn,
Choosing again the hard, heroic part,
And led by one who bore, most fitly worn,
A lion's name as well as lion's heart,

To this, the smallest of the flocks that own
Christ's Vicar as their shepherd, forth they went,
Daring the venture in His strength alone
By whom on such brave emprise they were sent.

And now behold ! a circle of the years,
Fourth of a century's swift hast'ning time,
Filled to the brim with labors, hopes and fears,
With courage high, and confidence sublime,

With works of great achievement nobly wrought,
With trials still more nobly overcome,
Have all their rich fruition proudly bought,
Their garnered harvest in full splendid sum,

To honor him unto whose fostering care
These marvellous results are chiefly owed,
Whose steadfast faith, and wisdom ripe and rare
The way to true success have ever showed.

For like those famous abbots of old days,
In whom the scholar, saint and statesman met,
Whose glorious deeds the centuries still praise,
Whose lasting work the world cannot forget,

Stands forth the stately form of him we greet
On this his day of happiest jubilee,
In whom the same high gifts and powers meet,
In whom the same great type we clearly see.

As once in them, in him we now behold
 The apostolic zeal no trials daunt,
 One who in toil and labors manifold,
 With quiet strength that knows no need of vaunt,
 Has laid foundations that shall long endure,
 Has made waste places blossom like the rose,
 And reared aloft the fabric fair and pure
 Of the great faith from which all blessing flows.
 And as a crown upon these fruitful years,
 The work so bravely done in faith and hope,
 The purpose widening as each chance appears
 For greater effort, and for broader scope,
 We have seen Belmont's Abbot take and bear,
 By grace of him who sits on Peter's throne,
 The unique honor which is his to wear
 In the New World distinctive and alone.
 Cathedral-Abbey! — so we know it now,
 The young foundation, radiant and strong,
 And hail the double mitre on the brow
 Of him we pray may live to wear it long,
 He who a double burden long has borne,
 As Abbot and as Bishop truly great,
 Has carried light to many a spot forlorn,
 And taught the lessons that men's hearts await,
 Of knowledge, wisdom, guidance in the ways
 That lead to that which is of highest worth,
 And lends eternal value to the days
 Of our brief life upon this troubled earth.
 And on these tireless labors, broad and clear,
 Heaven's blessing rests for all men to discern,
 In the success that crowns each glorious year
 To which we now with grateful tribute turn.
 Then let the grand *Te Deum* rise and swell,
 Like the exultant music of the sea!
 And let the pealing gladness to each bell
 Ring forth the tidings of this Jubilee!
 From earth to heaven the joyous anthem raise,
 In which a myriad hearts their greetings blend,
 Praying for our loved Bishop length of days,
 Honor and blessing that may never end.

CHRISTIAN REID.

The Abbot's Silver Jubilee

Opening Exercises

On Wednesday, November 23, at three o'clock in the afternoon was sounded the first glad note celebrating the SILVER ABBATIAL JUBILEE of our Rt. Rev. Abbot and Bishop, Leo Haid, O. S. B. A vast concourse from far and near assembled in the College Music Hall to testify their respect and love for the venerable Jubilarian. Priests from the Vicariate of North Carolina, over which he has ruled so long and so well; members of the laity from all parts of the State; old friends from a distance, whom he had not seen for years; students of today, now enjoying his fostering care; old students whom he had taught in their youth, and who have risen to positions of responsibility and eminence; members of his family, who had come from the scenes familiar to his youthful days; priests of his own community now laboring in far-off fields; nuns from home and abroad; his brother Abbots from Benedictine monasteries throughout the country; were all gathered to grace this happy occasion by their welcome presence.

As the soft strains of the College Orchestra, which greeted the splendid procession of priests, prelates, and visitors as they entered the hall, died away, V. Rev. Father Felix, Prior of the Abbey and Vicar General of the Vicariate, spoke a few words of heartfelt welcome to the assembled guests; and then, turning to the Rt. Rev. Abbot and Bishop addressed him as follows, in the name of the community of Belmont Abbey:

Rt. Rev. dear Bishop and Abbot:

After welcoming the Rev. Prelates and friends it is my happy duty to present the most heartfelt felicitations of our Abbey and Vicariate—be assured, dear Father, that they come from the very hearts of your spiritual sons, ever filled with love and gratitude.

Twenty-five years ago you left your beautiful monastic home in the state of your birth, Pennsylvania; you left a post of honor which might have advanced you further in the service of the Church than you are today; you came to the poorest of the Benedictine colonies then in our land, a place which could not cheer, nor brighten any possible

hope of success; you were a stranger among strangers. Yet you came, a valiant lion, not only in name but in deed. With almost superhuman energy of will you threw aside every obstacle, overpowered all hardships and trials; and today, after twenty years and five, you can triumphantly look upon what has been accomplished. *Vicit Leo!* From the flowery peninsula of distant Florida we can trace your work through the Empire State of the South; and from fair Virginia mark your ecclesiastical enterprises through our own dear state, and terminate them, last but not least, at the gates of your own magnificent Abbey, through you raised to the highest abbatial dignity in the Church. Yes, *vicit Leo*, and Belmont Abbey shall ever proudly bear on its shield the golden, lusty, lion resting on its field of green—"der Löwe auf der Haide." But not all—in your dual dignity as Vicar Apostolic and as Abbot—your labors were multiplied, and your cares increased. Great Bishops preceded you as Ordinaries of North Carolina, the first our eminent Cardinal, the second now an Archbishop, and the third the illustrious Bishop of Charleston, S. C. They too had worked, and preached, and prayed, yet in the nineteen years of their administration but little could be accomplished. Why? *Messis quidem multa, operarii autem pauci*. You were able to pursue a more favorable course. Behind your monastic walls you educated your workers. The vanguards in the field as students sat at your feet, as priests they helped to plant the churches from the mountains to the sea. It is not necessary to enumerate all the churches and schools built in your administration, all the hospitals and homes of charity opened, and all with scarcely six thousand souls under your jurisdiction. *Vere hoc opus Dei est*.

Yet only twenty-five years have passed, and twenty-five golden ones are yet to come. When the first wooden shanty was blessed here for God's service, it is related that the saintly Archabbot Wimmer, truly filled with the spirit of prophecy, exclaimed: *Dies wird einmal eine grosse Abtei werden*, ("This will one day be a great Abbey.") The prophet's words are fulfilled; it is a great Abbey today through your endeavors, self-sacrifice, and spirit of a true Benedictine. *Vicit Leo!* Yet, looking into the distant future, our illustrious Apostolic Delegate, after he had conferred on your Abbey the exalted rank of an Abbatia Nullius, said on his departure to his companions in full conviction of the fact in his own beautiful way: "This will once be a great Abbey". Future greatness is therefore still in store. May God then give it all, may He preserve you to high old age, our beloved Abbot and Bishop, and keep and protect you ever *ut videas filios filiorum tuorum*, and our innermost prayers to God are today: *Dominus conservet pontificem nostrum Leonem, et vivificet eum, et beatum faciat eum in terra*.

Only one more word: in presenting the magnificent gifts which

are spread before you this afternoon I re-echo the sentiments of all the donors, that they are gifts of love and esteem. Accept them in that spirit. They are mostly destined to the greater honor and glory of God, to beautify His house, to increase the solemnity of ecclesiastical functions. "Nothing is too good to give to God" was the practical motto of the ages of faith, the echo of which still vibrates in the hearts of Christian men and women today. May the magnificent mitre, the gorgeous crosier, the jewelled chalice, the sacred vestments be borne and worn by you for years and years to come—*ut in omnibus glorificetur Deus.*

At the conclusion of the remarks of Father Prior the Jubilee Ode, which graces our opening pages was read by the distinguished author, Mrs. Tiernan, world-famed under the pen name of Christian Reid.

Mr. Anthony Felthaus of the class of '89, representing the parish of St. Mary's, Richmond, Va. presented a magnificent specimen of Christian art in the form of a solid silver crosier. Mr. Felthaus spoke as follows:

"Ordinarily, in addressing the beloved and distinguished head of Belmont Abbey, I would, in recognition of his higher office as the apostolic representative in North Carolina, use the formal salutation of Right Reverend and dear Bishop, but on this occasion I beg the privilege, and I trust I may be pardoned, if in addressing your reverence, I use the more endearing term of Right Reverend Father Abbot, a term especially dear to the older students of Saint Mary's College, one of whom I have the honor to be.

"I have been signally honored, Rt. Reverend Father Abbot, in having accorded to me the distinguished privilege of conveying to you the heartfelt congratulations of the members of St. Mary's parish at Richmond, on this the silver jubilee of your elevation to the exalted office of Abbot; and to your earnest and energetic co-workers of Belmont Abbey, all of whom are linked together in the golden bonds of unity, I bring sincere and heartfelt greetings.

"The members of St. Mary's parish are peculiarly interested in this jubilee celebration, because for a number of years prior to the elevation of this institution to the dignity of an abbey, the Benedictine fathers, under the guidance of the much beloved and lamented Archabbot Wimmer, labored in that parish with a fidelity and a devotion worthy the name of faithful sons of St. Benedict.

"Even in those days of limited opportunities, the fire and zeal of the Benedictine fathers shone forth resplendently, and the results of their early labors in that parish, both spiritually and materially,

left an impress which time has not effaced.

"Under the patronage, however, of the Southern Benedictine Society, so ably presided over by you as Abbot, a new era of prosperity dawned upon our parish, and as, through your wisdom in supplying us with priests, whose ardent zeal in matters spiritual and whose untiring energy in matters temporal, have been productive of so much good, our parish has been so signally blessed, we feel that it is not only a pleasure, but a duty, publicly to express to you and to your faithful co-workers, our most grateful and profound appreciation.

* * * * *

"In strolling through these hallowed halls, filled for me with sweet recollections of bygone days, every fibre thrills with delightful emotions, and though twenty years and more have passed, memory still fondly lingers about those happy college days.

"It seems but as yesterday when the students of years ago offered their devotions in the humble chapel, replaced now by the magnificent cathedral which greets our eyes; the handsome buildings, including the gymnasium with its modern equipment for the physical development of the pupils, which now compose the college group, stand in striking contrast to the one single wing of the college proper, which at that time served every purpose required; the rough, unkempt paths we were wont to tread in our daily strolls, have given place to regularly laid-off walks; and where brush and tangled thicket once flourished unrestrained, beautifully appointed grounds, pleasing and attractive in their park-like effect now meet the gratified vision.

"All of these extensive improvements not only excite the admiration of the returned student, but they stand as testimony, mute but eloquent, of the indomitable energy, the earnest endeavor, the untiring zeal, the unflinching devotion, even, at times, in the face of discouraging conditions, of yourself and your faithful co-laborers, and merit the highest approbation that words can bestow upon the grand and noble work that has been and is being accomplished for the education of Catholic young men.

"In bringing to you, Rt. Reverend Father Abbot, these words of congratulation and felicitation, the earnest and sincere expression of hearts filled with gratitude for the many kindnesses you have extended to St. Mary's parish at Richmond, I have been also commissioned to bring to you a token of our great love, of our deep affection and of our high esteem—a token symbolic of your exalted office as the Shepherd of your flock, not only of your abbatial family, but also of the thousands of souls entrusted to your care as Bishop of North Carolina—and in the name of the donors I present you this crosier, and beg that you will accept it with the sincere wish that each succeeding year in the history of Belmont Abbey may be better

than the one before, and that every year, in friendly emulation of its predecessor, may outrival it in the grand and glorious work being accomplished. And, furthermore, may the past gratifying success of Belmont Abbey, and its present great prosperity, be but a slight indication of the brilliant prospect the future has in store for it."

Miss Gladys Niven of Richmond, Va., speaking for many friends from many places, presented a magnificent jeweled chalice. Miss Niven spoke as follows:

Rt. Rev. Bishop and Father Abbot:

To us has been given the great privilege, pleasure, and honor of presenting to you this Chalice,—a testimonial of the admiration, love and esteem which many hearts in places widely separated bear for you.

This Chalice has a value far beyond the costly materials of which it is composed,—for it is made from precious heir-looms which have been long in the families of the donors. In places far and near, especially in Charleston and Richmond, family treasures have been searched and freely given to offer you this tribute of affection; and wrapped in its golden heart are the tenderest and most sacred sentiments of the donors.

Accept this chalice, dear Bishop, and when, in the Holy Sacrifice it becomes the casket holding the Body and Blood of our Saviour, let a prayer arise from your heart to the throne of Grace, asking God's blessing upon those who contributed to its making.

Miss Mary Forde of the Sacred Heart College, on behalf of the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina, delivered the following address of congratulation:

Rt. Rev. Bishop and Abbot:

On the twenty-fifth anniversary of your abbatial consecration all the Sisterhoods of the state have assembled to greet you—to present their most heartfelt congratulations. But, above all, dear Bishop, our own good Sisters, born and reared upon the soil of both Carolinas, the Sisters of our Lady of Mercy, in deepest reverence and gratitude, turn to you on this happy day. For more than twenty years you have been to them more than their Bishop, a loving kind Father and Protector.

The marvelous growth of their institutions, spreading now from the mountains to the sea, their increasing number, their temporal

and spiritual advancement, to whom else is due, next to God, than to you, dear Bishop, whose solicitude and care was ever their happy lot. They offer you, therefore, on this auspicious day, their choicest felicitations. May the good Master, our common Father in Heaven, crown your days with the garland of your Golden Jubilee, so that the blessings which issued from your consecrated hands, may ever be felt in our state, our diocese, our vicariate.

Well have you and your faithful fathers merited the recent honors conferred by our Holy Father upon your flourishing abbey, and the Sisters of Mercy rejoice that their Motherhouse in North Carolina is forever linked to you and yours. They are assured of that fatherly love and protection which has characterized your illustrious order for ages in the Church, for its life is the life of the Church, and the aim of God's Church is its own.

The Sisters of Mercy, therefore, sincerely thank you for all the good that has come to them through you. It was and always will be their humble endeavor to work for God's honor and glory according to their Holy Rule in whatever way you may think fit that they shall serve the Master.

May the good Lord then protect and keep our beloved Bishop and Abbot wearing now the crown of twenty and five silvery years. *Ad multos, multos annos!*

Mr. Owen Quigley in behalf of the students of 1910—11 presented an exquisite mitre. Mr. Quigley's remarks were as follows:

Rt. Rev. and dear Father Abbot:

I address you by that title which is proper to the lesser of your dignities, for it is through your office of Abbot that you come closest to us as students, and exercise on our lives your greatest influence for good.

It is a happy privilege, an honored duty, and a proud honor which has been conferred upon me today to speak for the students of 1910 and 1911, and to offer you our heartfelt congratulations on this the occasion of your silver jubilee, and our best wishes that you may be spared to us for many years to come.

In a manner, I feel that I am speaking not only for the boys here present, but also for that great army of boys which for twenty-five years or more has been passing through the sacred halls of St. Mary's, and has felt the influence of your life and example, has had the benefit of your guidance, and has profited by your teaching, as it is now given to us. I feel also that I voice the sentiments of those older students whose footsteps you guided along the paths of virtue

and learning in those far off-years before God called you to your field of labor in the Old North State. Yes, Father Abbot, in offering your our congratulations today I feel that I am speaking not only for the boys of today, but also for the boys of those many and distant yesterdays.

As a token of the affection which we bear you, and of the esteem in which we hold you, we beg you to accept this mitre—a symbol of the double dignity with which you are crowned, the Abbot's office through which you come so close to us as students, the Bishop's power, through which you assist in ruling the Church of God.

I beg also that you accept the salver of silver on which the mitre rests. It is a loving gift, sent by friends from a distance, a worthy tribute from yet more worthy hearts.

Father Abbot, in the name of the students of St. Mary's, past and present, I say "God bless you !" *Ad multos annos !*

The Rt. Rev. Bishop and Abbot's Reply.

There are times when we most deeply feel the truth of the sacred words: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Surrounded by so many friends bearing such precious gifts, I today realize my inability to fittingly express my sentiments of appreciation and gratitude. To tell you I am very, yes, most thankful is saying only a little of what I feel.

In years to come, when others take my place, these tokens of affection will remain silent witnesses of the tender bonds which unite the Abbot of Belmont Abbey and Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina to his brother religious, his priests, friends and relations.

I am vividly reminded of the hot July day, 25 years ago, when the little colony of Benedictines arrived at Belmont, then called Garibaldi. A straggling, rut-ribbed road led them through undergrowth to the spot, destined to become the site of the first Cathedral Abbey in the United States. In spite of forlorn appearances, nature had favored that spot, and the sturdy old Benedictine spirit of labor, sacrifice and prayer would do the rest. The Abbey has become the center of Catholicity in North Carolina. From this center the rays of learning, virtue and piety spread in all directions, and North Carolina has generously shared with South Carolina, Florida, Georgia and Virginia.

In 1887 it pleased Pope Leo XIII to add the episcopal dignity with its cares and responsibilities to the abbatial burdens. The Vicariate of North Carolina was erected by Pius IX in 1868. For 19 years abler prelates than I had labored and toiled, and yet I found only six priests and 10 or 12 churches of which 6 or 8 had been built within the last 19 years. Now we have some 45 churches, 3 hospitals, 2 orphan asylums, 10 Catholic schools, 2 academies for young ladies, and St. Mary's College and Seminary from which have gone out hundreds of young men, priests, professional men, merchants and so on, whose influence for good makes itself felt wherever they live and labor. It was only by giving his time and care in great measure to the monastery and seminary that the Abbot-bishop could educate good and zealous priests for God's work among the people. All that has been accomplished is owing, under God, to the cooperation of the religious and priests with their Abbot and Bishop. And here I must make special mention of the inestimable service rendered to education, charity and religion by the pious Sisterhoods in the State. By the good Sisters of Mercy who for so many years "have borne the heat and burden of the day;" by the daughters of Charity who know so well how to soothe suffering and pain; by the white-robed children of St. Dominic who so joyfully sacrificed their comfortable northern homes in exchange for the poverty and privations of the South; and the Sisters of Christian Education whose loss to ungrateful France is the great gain of more appreciative lands.

I say this publicly today to prove how unjust and even foolish it would be in me to accept for myself the words of praise you have kindly spoken. The greatest merit belongs to others. I would have miserably failed without the Monastery, College and Seminary which gave me the religious and priests, to whose labors, in justice, belongs the progress of education and religion in the Catholic Church of North Carolina.

Yet when I speak these words of simple truth, I wish only to give credit to whom credit is due, and not in the least to lessen my debt of gratitude to you for the great kindness you show me today. I am sincerely and most profoundly thankful to all who have been so very good to me.

The Thanksgiving Mass.

Thanksgiving morn dawned bright and clear, with a hint in the air of winter's approach, just sufficient to be exhilarating. At eight-thirty o'clock the cathedral bells, in full peal, rang their summons through the country round, proclaiming the time of Mass, and calling all to worship. So clear was the atmosphere that the music of their voices could be heard for miles, and in answer to their call the cathedral church was soon crowded to its capacity.

Priests and prelates had assembled in the Abbey parlor, and promptly at nine o'clock moved in procession to the church. It was a rare and beautiful sight. The procession was led by the cross-bearer and two acolytes with lighted candles, then followed fifty sanctuary boys in scarlet cassocks, almost as many priests in cassock and surplice, six abbots in their sombre robes of office accompanied by chaplains, the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Pittsburg in gleaming purple, the ministers of the Mass in vestments of cloth of gold, and last the Rt. Rev. Jubilarian, the celebrant of the Mass, wearing a magnificent black cappa magna,—vestment and color proper to his office as Abbot of this monastery.

The Rt. Rev. Regis Canevin, Bishop of Pittsburg, preached the Jubilee sermon. He paid a beautiful tribute to the Jubilarian, reviewing his career, as teacher, pastor, abbot and bishop, and giving an insight into the inner life of a Benedictine monk. Bishop Canevin's presence is a commanding one, and his resonant voice rings as clear as a bell. It is interesting to note that nearly forty years ago Bishop Canevin was a student under Bishop Haid.

Rev. Father Stephen Lyons of Spring Lake, N. J., was Arch-priest at the Mass, Rev. Fathers Thomas and Matthew Deacons of Honor, Rev. F. Eugene Deacon of the Mass, Rev. F. Ambrose Sub-deacon.

The altar was superb. Hundreds of magnificent white chrysanthemums contrasted most beautifully with the background of dark greenery. It was dazzling in its myriad candles and countless ornamental electric lamps which gleamed from every niche, and outlined every statue. At the very apex of the altar an electric cross of exquisite beauty shone forth in a blaze of glory. The procession entered and left the church to the strains of the college orchestra.

The music of the mass, as rendered by the students' choir, was inspiringly beautiful, and showed the result of long and arduous training.

The Banquet.

At one o'clock all were bidden to the Thanksgiving feast. The banquet was spread in the monastery refectory, and covers were laid for seventy-five. The first toast, "Our Holy Father, Pius X," was responded to by Bishop Haid, briefly and reverently. The Bishop took advantage of the occasion to express his appreciation of the kind words spoken of him during the celebration, and to greet the visiting friends, who had traveled far to be present on this occasion. Bishop Canevin in speaking to the "Jubilarian" drew rounds of laughter by his fine humor, and closed with a tender prayer for the continued health and success of Bishop Haid. To the toast "Virginia and Carolina" Mr. A. H. Felthaus of the Virginia Capital, and a former student of St. Mary's, responded most happily. One of the most interesting talks of the day was that of Father Stephen Lyons of New Jersey, who toasted St. Mary's College. Years ago this venerable priest came from the North, when the abbey was but a hut, and was one of the pioneers who aided in its upbuilding, when the cause was a struggle against heavy odds. He had not visited the place in twenty-eight years, and the transformation astounded him. Father Lyons was reminiscent and commanded the undivided attention of the banqueters. Incidentally he took occasion to say some nice things about the OBSERVER, declaring that twenty-eight years ago one of the most welcome visitors in the early morning was the CHARLOTTE OBSERVER, and he noticed now, that if such be possible, the daily welcome was even warmer. Abbot Charles Mohr of Florida wrote *finis* to the toasts by a felicitous greeting and adieu to the assembled guests.

In the evening V. Rev. Father Felix, Prior of the abbey, gave a lecture on the history of the abbey, illustrated with stereopticon views. The lecture, entitled "Twenty-five Years in the Vicariate", was of great educational value, and was deeply appreciated.

(From the "Charlotte Observer")

The Mass of Requiem.

The ceremonies of the Jubilee were brought to a solemn close on Friday morning with a Requiem Mass for the deceased friends, members and benefactors of the Abbey. The Right Rev. Abbot Athanasius of St. Meinrads, Indiana, was celebrant. V. Rev. Father Melchior, subprior of the Abbey, was Archpriest, and the Rev. Fathers Charles and Cornelius, of the Benedictine College at Savannah, were Deacon and Subdeacon of the Mass. The sermon was preached by the Rt. Rev. Abbot-Bishop.

The Bishop's Sermon

It is the highest dictate of Christian charity that whilst we are true and faithful to the living, we are not unmindful of our dead. We are earnestly taught this salutary lesson by the Church of God, who, like a loving mother, never forgets her departed children, but prays for them without ceasing. The same duty is impressed upon us by the Holy Scriptures, (II Mac. 12-46) where we are taught that "It is a wholesome and salutary thought to pray for the dead that they may be released from their sins." If we owe all who in the Lord have exchanged time for eternity the suffrage of our prayers, this duty devolves upon us in a special manner towards our friends and benefactors. Yesterday we gave especially to the living; it were ungrateful to forget those who have gone before us to the tribunal of Divine Justice, let us hope of Divine Mercy; and, although we daily pray for them, yet today we remember them with special supplication, not un-mixed with words of praise. They were our benefactors in the day of our greatest need; they assisted in building up the Church in North Carolina, and in many cases they helped to lay the foundations upon which Belmont Abbey stands today.

It is a beautiful custom in our Order, during the celebration of our triennial general chapters, to read the names of those who have slept in the Lord during the three intervening years. May I imitate this laudable practice by recalling the names of those to whom we owe the heaviest debt? To Pope Leo XIII, perhaps the greatest ruler of the 19th century, Belmont Abbey owes its canonical existence. This great Pope elevated the struggling Priory to the dignity of an independent Abbey in 1884, and confirmed the first Abbot in 1885. The Sovereign Pontiff was moved to this gracious act by the founder of the Benedictine Order in America, the great Arch-Abbot Boniface Wimmer. We recognize him as our greatest friend and benefactor. I well remember the day when the ground upon which the Abbey now stands was

offered with many onerous conditions to the Benedictine Fathers. This offer would never have been accepted but for the earnest pleadings of Arch-Abbot Boniface Wimmer, whose big heart always went out to the lowliest and most needy.

For many years the Rev. Dr. Jeremiah O'Connell had labored most zealously in Georgia and the Carolinas. His name will be ever inseparable from the history of the Catholic Church in these states. Worn out by many years of toil and sacrifice, he retired to private life on the Caldwell plantation, which, through Cardinal Gibbons, then Vicar Apostolic, he offered to the Benedictine Order. Some here present will remember the venerable Doctor as they saw him reading, studying, or telling his beloved beads. His name is inscribed among the greatest benefactors of Belmont Abbey. Nor must I forget the Rev. Dr. Herman Wolfe, O.S.B., who became a Catholic priest after serving most devotedly as surgeon in the Confederate Army. He was the first superior in 1876.

The early years of our Abbatial life were years of great struggle and poverty. Among strangers who did not understand our lives, or our object in coming into their midst, without means we were obliged to build and lay the foundations for the future. It was then that our northern friends generously came to our aid. Mrs. Mary Fraenheim and family of Pittsburg, were among the very first to extend a helping hand, and we always remember them with most grateful hearts. Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Vilsack, also of Pittsburg, were no less kind to our struggling community. For years their generosity has enabled a student to prepare for the priesthood. I sincerely hope the Vilsack scholarship will always lead a worthy boy to the Altar of God.

There lived in Wilmington a quiet, worthy Catholic, Lawrence Brown. Some time before his happy death he disposed of his property for the benefit of our orphan children, the Church, and the education of priests for the Vicariate. May God reward him bounteously.

On returning from my benediction in Charleston, Dr. Denis O'Donoghue of Charlotte, offered the hospitality of his beautiful home to the Benedictine Abbots. It was the only occasion that all the Abbots of our congregation were entertained together in a private house. From that well remembered day to his death, the Doctor was always a good friend. Knowing the necessities of the church, he not only made generous provision for the Catholics of Charlotte, but also evinced his love for the Abbey in many other ways, but especially by endowing two scholarships for the education of priests for the Order. His name will always be held in benediction by those who owe so much to his kindness. John Buis of Salisbury and Mrs. Mary Erl of Syracuse, N. Y. have also inscribed their names on the hearts of future priests, who will have reached their sacred goal through the kindness of these benefactors.

To the late great architect, Raphael Guastavino, a noble Spaniard, the Vicariate owes the erection of the magnificent church in Asheville. He gave not only the plans, but generously donated thousands of dollars and much of his precious time to this masterpiece of church architecture. His name is enshrined with those of the Fathers Marrin in the hearts of the people of North Carolina. The only reward he asked was a resting place in the Guastavino Chapel—where he now awaits the resurrection.

Mr. William T. O'Brien of Durham generously donated the valuable lots upon which the church is built, supervised its erection, and was its most liberal benefactor. God called him to his reward a few weeks after the joyful dedication; he was the first to be buried from the beautiful edifice he loved so well.

To Captain Devine the Catholics of Wilmington owe a great debt of gratitude. He was most generous towards the grand church, which we hope to dedicate in the near future.

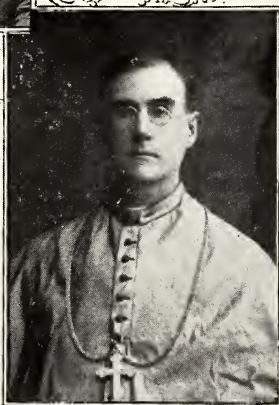
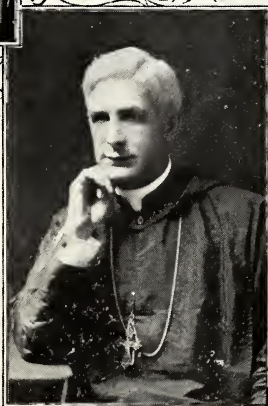
With grateful hearts we today remember the priests of God, who gave not only their earthly possessions but their very life blood to the service of God in North Carolina. Good Father White, to whom the Vicariate owes more in temporal goods than to any other was in his day known as the "Great Beggar." But it was for God and His Church he so earnestly begged.

Saintly Father Mark Gross, my first Vicar General, impressed his life of great sacrifice, piety, and devotion on the Church of the Vicariate. Patient, quiet Father Moore, who, after many years of faithful service closed a truly priestly life by a lingering illness and a happy death. Nor can I omit the zealous Father Francis, who loved his Order so ardently, and sacrificed himself so wholly for the people of Charlotte.

Our saintly brothers! Their lives were hidden from the world—but their good works are precious in the eyes of God. I never pass their humble graves without thanking God for their invaluable services. Last but not least the pious sisters, whose resting place as we enter the cemetery, reminds us of their devotion to God and to His Glory.

All hearts and tongues unite with me as I humbly pray: Eternal rest and peace and joy be to all our deceased benefactors.





Rt. Rev. Charles Mohr, O.S.B.
 Abbot of St. Leo's, Florida, the first of
 Bishop Haid's community to be raised
 to the dignity of Abbot

Rt. Rev. Bishop Northrop
 who blessed Bishop Haid as Abbot in
 1885 and consecrated him
 Bishop in 1887

Rt. Rev. Bishop Canevin
 Preacher of the Jubilee sermon, and
 a student under Bishop Haid
 thirty years ago

Our Bishop

Heard you e'er his priestly voice denouncing wrong—
Clarion-like, or brazen trumpet's song—
To battle calling?
Saw you e'er the flash of fire from out his piercing eye—
(Paling the very lightning in the vaulted sky)
In righteous anger falling?
Or has it been your blessed lot in sadness' hour to hear
His loving words of comfort and of cheer,
Tender and stilling?
Or listened to his plea for justice, truth and love and right
And all the better things in tones of might,
Vibrant and thrilling?
Feeding and guiding his flock; leading it ever to pastures green;
Teaching to learn from the things of earth, the things as yet unseen:
So mixed in him the elements—mixed by the Master's hand,
That e'en the world itself declares: Here is the Master's man.

Rev. George A. Woods



List of Gifts Received during the Jubilee

A gothic chalice of gold and silver, richly jewelled, gift of the children in North Carolina, Richmond, Charleston and other places,—a masterpiece of Christian art.

An episcopal crozier of solid silver, gilt, gothic in execution and jewelled, presented by personal friends of the Bishop in Richmond, Va. Chalice and crozier were manufactured by the papal jeweller, Franz Janner, Amberg, Bavaria, a cousin of our Father Gregory.

A magnificent mitre, the gift of the students of St. Mary's, manufactured by J. J. Deplaz, in Regensburg, Bavaria. There are eighty-eight precious stones set into it, and ten images of saints are done in the most artistic needle work. It was pronounced the most beautiful mitre ever seen in Ratisbon, that old Catholic city on the Danube.

A set of vestments in all ecclesiastical colors, the gift of the mission priests at Statesville, Salisbury, Greensboro and Winston-Salem. Each vestment bears the episcopal escutcheon.

A unique and costly table service of 570 pieces, sufficient for a banquet of 60 covers. The plates are of the finest china and each bears the Abbatial coat-of-arms. It is the gift of Rev. F. Joseph and his friends in Charlotte. The firm A. P. Chandler Sons Co. of Baltimore, had this set under contract and through its factory in Syracuse, N. Y. executed it in a masterly manner.

A statue of the Madonna presented by Mr. Franz Mayer, Munich, Bavaria, who is represented by Mayer and Co., Barclay St. New York.

A very handsome set of pontifical candlesticks, forty-six inches high, bearing the escutcheon of the Abbey, of metal gilt, manufactured by W. J. Feeley Co. in Providence, R. I., and presented by the Benedictine College in Savannah, Ga.

A smaller set of candlesticks, same original pattern, presented by Rev. Stephan Schramm, Pittsburg, Pa.

A solid silver episcopal candlestick, gilt, used at pontifical services, gift of Rev. Paul Reinfels, Paloma, Ill.

Solid silver pontifical ewers and plate, gilt, artistically engraved, gift of the young ladies of the Sacred Heart College, Belmont.

Monastic missal, handsomely bound, by Benedictine Fathers of Newark, N. J.

A Cappa Magna, imported from Rome, by the Benedictine Sisters of St. Mary's, Pa.

A large solid silver waiter, engraved, gift of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Bliley.

A loving cup, with artistic inscription, Bishop Northrop, Charleston, S. C.

A loving cup with artistic inscription, Sister and Brothers of the Rt. Rev. Bishop.

A magnificent costly vase, Mr. George Farbaugh, Altoona, Pa.

A pontifical chair, brass-gilt and velvet cushioned, Catholic Congregation at Belmont, N. C.

A very fine white vestment, imported from Paris, gift of the Sisters of Christian Education, Asheville, N. C.

A stained glass window with escutcheon of Abbey and Bishop, for the corridor of the Abbot's apartments, gift of Rev. Joseph Bauer of Pittsburg, Pa.

A set of pontifical black vestments, consisting of four dalmatics, chasuble, cope, etc., of heavy velvet and gold—imported.

A set of pontifical red vestments, as above, of heavy red and gold, especially designed and woven in Lyons, France. Manufactured in Germany and given by friends in Pittsburg, Pa.

An original water-color painting of the Rt. Rev. Bishop-Abbot's escutcheon by Professor P. de Chaignon la Rose, Cambridge, Mass.

A beautiful large rug by Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Manning of Richmond, Va.

An artistic gremiale, imported, by Mr. and Mrs. John R. Hulcher, Richmond, Va.

A choir cloak by Mrs. A. Haid, Newcastle, Pa.

Purses by V. Rev. F. Julius, Bristow, Va.; Sisters of Mercy in North Carolina; Rev. Stephan Lyons, Springlake, N. J.; Rt. Rev. Mgr. Geo. Borneman, Reading, Pa.; Messrs. E. and M. Mahoney, Norfolk, Va.; Mr. Wm. O'Brien, Durham, N. C.; Friends of Bishop in Pittsburg, Pa.

There were two Jubilee Scholarships for deserving ecclesiastical students established, one by the Rt. Rev. Bishop and another by a friend.

A magnificent episcopal ring—the generous present of Hon. Richard C. Kerens, the American Ambassador in Vienna, Austria.

There are numerous minor presents, which space forbids to enumerate.



Jubilee Notes

It was a graceful act on the part of our Rt. Rev. Bishop to commemorate in his address at the Requiem services on Friday, Nov. 25th, all deceased benefactors of the Abbey and Vicariate. In touching words he spoke of each one's good deeds. May they rest in peace.

It is a regrettable fact that no photographs are extant of the original log cabin, frame building and barn which formed the nucleus of the present Belmont Abbey. Their disappearance, however, was not regretted in days gone by—still a picture would recall many pleasant memories to the older members of the Abbey.

Rev. Father Lyons, of Spring Lake, N. J., was Rector of St. Mary's College in what he calls its prehistoric days; as he had not seen Belmont in twenty-eight years, all seemed like a magic-picture to him of which he scarcely could have dreamt.

Rev. Peter G. Marion enjoyed his visit immensely. He found so many old and dear acquaintances assembled at the Abbey. In the near future a lordly crowd will gather in our beautiful mountain city Asheville, when the magnificent temple he and his reverend brother built will be solemnly consecrated. It will be the first consecrated church in North Carolina.

Few guests enjoyed their stay at the Abbey as much as Rev. Father Bauer from Pittsburg. He remained with us a week.

The unique feature at the "Presentation" on Nov. 23rd was undoubtedly the reading by our sweet southern novelist, "Christian Reid," of her magnificent Jubilee Ode. The distinguished lady wore on this occasion the famous Lætare Medal presented by Notre Dame University in 1909.

By far the most trying task during the Jubilee was that of our efficient cooks. Had the Brothers Maurus, Leonard, Albert and John heard all the nice things said about their culinary art, they would have been partly compensated for all their work and trouble.

Brother George and his able assistant displayed remarkable taste in decorating the church, altars, etc. It is a blessing for Belmont Abbey that Brother is still very young—in his hands all the beautiful things are safe.

(From the "News Letter")

Editorial from the Ecclesiastical Review

In another part of this issue we print the Pontifical Bull of the erection of the Benedictine Abbey of Belmont, in North Carolina, into an "Abbatia Nullius," that is, practically a diocese whose head is subject to the Holy See directly. The Bull constitutes Belmont an independent province of the great Benedictine community which has long passed the millenary mark of its missionary activity, and to which the English-speaking world owes under God the gift of Christian civilization.

The story of the first Benedictine settlement in North Carolina is an interesting one. Early in the last century the place on which the monastery church stands to-day was the chief slave mart of the South; and the very block of granite on which the negro to be sold to the highest bidder was placed for inspection, served the present Bishop, Leo Haid, first Abbot and Vicar Apostolic, twenty-five years ago, as pulpit when he was enabled to announce the glad tidings of the new monastic foundation, the jubilee of which, together with his own, is being celebrated this year by solemn thanksgiving services.

Since 1872, when Dr. J. J. O'Connell, author of the *History of Catholicity in the Carolinas and Georgia*, purchased of his patrimony the ground now occupied by the monks, to which he made them heir by his entering the Benedictine community, the settlement has grown from a few scattered houses, which barely half-a-dozen Catholic families, to an industrial district with thirty-nine churches and some fifty missions. These are administered by thirty three priests, whose center is the Monastery of Mary Help, with its adjuncts for parish schools, convents, and charitable institutions for every work of mercy. And the man to whose leadership and self-sacrificing industry this progress is mainly due, the Right Rev. Leo Haid, missionary, farmer, builder, teacher, theologian, in short uniting in himself all the varied activities of the early monastic pioneers whose rule he had made the rule of his life; a bishop who oversees without ever overlooking, who spends himself without stint for the cause of Christ, closes the first quarter of a century's labor amid the well-deserved applause of his brethren in the Order,

the episcopate, and the priesthood. May the work of the revered abbot-bishop continue to thrive under the blessings of God, as an incentive to zeal for the coming generations of laborers in the Vineyard of Christ!

Editorial from the Charlotte Observer

The celebration which was carried through with so many gratifying features at Belmont Abbey this week serves to call attention to the excellent work which the Benedictine Order is doing at that place. St. Mary's is more than a center of education; it stands for everything which can uplift the community materially as well as spiritually. When it was inaugurated a quarter of a century ago its site was practically a waste. Intelligently directed industry has adorned the spot with beautiful grounds and impressive buildings which elicited glowing compliments from the recent visitors. Furthermore, these good people have been foremost in every movement designed to promote the welfare of Gaston County.

The central figure of the exercises was naturally the venerable jubilarian and the congratulations offered him on the joyful completion of twenty-five years as abbot were well-deserved. Bishop Haid's work has been unobtrusive but it has been of the most lasting kind. His brethren from many sections gathered around him this week and gave unmistakable evidence of the esteem in which they hold him. That the highest authorities of his Church are by no means unmindful of his labors is shown by the recent erection of Belmont into a cathedral abbey. Not less pleasing to him than these expressions of regard from distant places must be the enthusiastic affection manifested by those whose ecclesiastical chief he has been all these years—the residents of the abbey and school. Nor can he be untouched by the evidences of interest and respect on the part of many of his neighbors who are not of his faith. Such widespread and general felicitation as has been his on this occasion is of itself no small compensation for the unselfish labor of the quarter of a century which has just come to a close.

The Visit of the Abbot Primate

Last August the Rt. Rev. Hildebrand de Hemptinne, O. S. B., Abbot Primate of the Benedictine Order, and Abbot of St. Anselm's in Rome, arrived in the United States for the purpose of visiting all the Benedictine houses in the States and Canada. His Excellency had no idea what a herculean task was before him. A trip from the East to our distant West is in itself trying, but to visit nearly all the States and Canada, from the frosty North to the sunny South, from the Pacific to the Gulf and the Atlantic, to make frequent public addresses, and be exposed to all sorts of climate, weather and inconveniences requires an almost iron constitution. Our Rt. Rev. Abbot Primate has accomplished all, and within four months visited over fifty Benedictine institutions and delivered 164 addresses in English, German, French, Italian and Flemish. In reaching Belmont Abbey he was almost at the goal of his travels, still healthy, strong and vigorous.

His Excellency reached the first of the dependant houses of Belmont on December 19th, in Savannah, Georgia. He was received with most cordial hospitality by our Very Rev. F. Bernard, O.S.B. and the Fathers of the Benedictine Priory and College. Rt. Rev. Abbot Charles and Rev. Dom Julio traveled with the distinguished visitor from St. Leo's Abbey to Belmont.

On Monday the cadets of our Military School gave an exhibition drill complimentary to the Abbot Primate. He greatly admired the exact military discipline, the precision with which the most complicated tactics were executed, the noble appearance of these southern youths, and in a short address highly complimented the professors, officers, and cadets. He accepted a number of souvenirs from the beautiful city by the sea. Leaving that night he arrived in Charlotte, N. C. next morning where he celebrated Holy Mass in our St. Peter's Church. Rev. Father Joseph entertained him at breakfast and at 10 A.M. they entered an automobile to be driven across the beautiful Catawba into the territory of our Abbatia Nulius. Amidst the ringing of the Cathedral bells the Abbot Primate arrived at the Abbey. The highway and buildings still retained

their artistic decorations from the recent abbatial Jubilee, and this gave a festive impression and appearance.

In the afternoon the official reception took place in the Abbey Cathedral. The altars and interior had already assumed the Christmas ornamentation, and illuminated by hundreds of electric lights, they presented a magnificent sight. The Abbot Primate was received at the larger entrance in a manner prescribed by the ceremonial, the boy's choir chanted the *Ecce Sacerdos Magnus*, which was followed by a beautifully rendered anthem in honor of our Blessed Mother. After the proper oration was sung by His Excellency, he imparted the Pontifical Benediction, and then assumed the pontifical robes in order to bestow the Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament. The Abbot Primate was greatly touched by the beautiful ceremonies and the sweet chant of the boys' choir on this evening.

On Wednesday our Rt. Rev. Bishop Leo Haid tendered His Excellency a banquet, to which many guests were invited. Bishop Haid, in an after-dinner address, expressed the highest appreciation of the honor conferred upon the Abbey by the visit of the Abbot Primate, to which His Excellency responded in that happy vein which characterizes all his public utterances. The Reverend Prior, Father Felix, then proposed the health of our illustrious guest, a *bon voyage*, and a safe return to the Aventine Hill in Rome. An automobile trip through Gaston County concluded the day.

On Thursday all the Reverend Fathers and the Abbot-Bishop assembled in the choir chapel at 10 A. M., and, before the Blessed Sacrament and the Abbot Primate, took the prescribed oath against Modernism. It was a striking and touching scene as the venerable Bishop ascended the altar steps, and, kissing the Missal, pronounced the words *Sic spondeo, sic juro*, etc.; he was followed by all the priests. The Abbot Primate then made a magnificent address to the Fathers, congratulated them upon the recent high dignity their abbey has attained, and begged for them a continual blessing from God. The Papal Benediction completed this memorable function. Addresses were also made to the Venerable Brothers, and to the students of the College. At the Sacred Heart Convent an informal reception was tendered His Excellency, after which he bestowed the papal Benediction on all present, wished the community prosperity, and the young ladies a "Happy Christmas."

On Friday the Abbot Primate celebrated Holy Mass in our church in Richmond. In company of the V. Rev. F. Edward he visited the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Richmond, an old friend of his and a fellow-countryman. The Abbot Primate was also taken to the site of our new Military College, which he blessed with all his heart. That evening he said farewell, I might say to Belmont Abbey, as he spent the entire time this week in houses and possessions of Belmont. Father Edward escorted His Excellency to Washington where he was the guest of Mgr. Falconio over Christmas day.

As these lines are being penned, the Abbot Primate is boarding the steamer "George Washington" on his return trip to Europe. May God protect him on the high sea, and bring him safely to his illustrious abbey on the Aventine!

The Prior.



December 19th, 1885

On the above date, twenty-five years ago, the first Benedictines of Belmont Abbey were raised to the Holy Priesthood in the little frame chapel which then constituted the Abbey Church. The Rt. Rev. H. P. Northrop, D.D., Bishop of Charleston and administrator of the Vicariate of North Carolina, officiated. The young levites ordained were: Rev. George Lester, O. S. B. Rev. Patrick Donlon, O.S.B. and Rev. Walter Thomas Leahy. All three were able to celebrate their Silver Jubilee this past December. Rev. George Lester, O.S.B., for the past four years Rector of St. Leo's in Winston-Salem, commemorated the day in his own native parish church of the Holy Trinity in New Orleans, La. Rev. Patrick Donlon, who recently returned from Europe, celebrated his Jubilee in a very quiet manner at Manassas, Va., and Rev. Walter Leahy, for the past ten years the able Rector of St. Paul's Church in Princeton, N. J., united his with the joyful Christmas Day. May God preserve their useful lives in the service of God for years and years to come.

Ad Multos Annos!



Catalogue of Belmont Abbey

1. Right Reverend Leo Haid, D. D., Titular Bishop of Messene; Abbot-Ordinary, Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina.
Born in Westmoreland, Pa., July 15, 1849; prof. Sept. 17, 1869; ordained Dec. 21, 1872; elected Abbot Jul. 14, 1885; confirmed Abbot Aug. 30, and blessed Nov. 26, 1885; confirmed Vic. Apost. Dec. 9, 1887; consecrated Bishop in Baltimore July 1, 1888, and designated Abbot-Ordinary of Belmont by P. Pius X, June 8, 1910.
2. Very Rev. Felix Hintemeyer, D. D., Prior and Vic. General, born April 22, 1862, in Donaustauf, Bav.; professed Jul. 11, 1881; ordained Mar. 14, 1886.
3. Very Rev. Melchior Reichert, Subprior and Cathedral Rector, born in Gommersdorf, Baden, Apr. 17, 1852; professed Jul. 11, 1871; ordained July 14, 1875.

REV. FATHERS:

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthplace</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Vows</i>	<i>Ord.</i>
4	Willibald Baumgartner	Wolfrathshausen, Bav.	1853	1873	1878
5	Julius Pohl	Cincinnati, Ohio	1857	1875	1880
6	George Lester	Mobile, Ala.	1860	1881	1885
7	Patrick Donlon	Plattsburgh, N. Y.	1862	1881	1885
8	Leo Kuntz	Allegheny, Pa.	1862	1883	1888
9	Gregory Windschiegel	Parkstein, Bav.	1863	1885	1889
10	Bernard Haas	Erie, Pa.	1866	1886	1889
11	Joseph Mueller	Cleveland, Ohio	1868	1887	1891
12	Edward Meyer	St. Mary's, Pa.	1867	1889	1892
13	Ignatius Remke	Richmond, Va.	1869	1891	1894
14	John E. Smith	Stanley Creek, N. C.	1863	1891	1894
15	Albert Goetz	Berghof, Bav.	1870	1891	1894
16	Thomas Oestreich	Reading, Pa.	1872	1893	1897
17	Anthony Meyer	Mahanoy City, Pa.	1873	1894	1898
18	Augustine Ecker	Mahanoy City, Pa.	1872	1894	1898
19	Paul Reinfels	Baltimore, Md.	1873	1894	1898
20	Charles Rettger	St. Mary's, Pa.	1873	1895	1899

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthplace</i>	<i>Born Vows Ord.</i>		
21	Eugene Egan	Atlanta, Ga.	1875	1896	1900
22	James Buchholz	New York, N. Y.	1874	1897	1901
23	Matthew Graz	Allegheny, Pa.	1876	1897	1900
24	Vincent Taylor	Norfolk, Va.	1877	1898	1902
25	Alphonse Buss	Reading, Pa.	1877	1898	1902
26	Jerome Finn	Pittsburg, Pa.	1880	1899	1903
27	Raymund Ely	Jacksonville, Fla.	1880	1899	1903
28	William Regnat	Gundelfingen, Bav.	1881	1901	1905
29	Dominic Vollmer	Boston, Mass.	1882	1902	1906
30	Ambrose Gallagher	Charlotte, N. C.	1881	1902	1906
31	Michael McInerney	Lock Haven, Pa.	1877	1903	1907
32	Cornelius Diel	Philadelphia, Pa.	1885	1904	1908
33	Raphael Arthur	Columbia, S. C.	1887	1906	1910
34	Francis Underwood	Newton Grove, N. C.	1885	1906	1910

CLERICS IN MINOR ORDERS:

1	Theodore Zink	Reading, Pa.	1886	1907
2	Philip Fink	Reading, Pa.	1882	1907
3	Mark Cassidy	Philadelphia, Pa.	1881	1908
4	Boniface Bauer	Edelbrunn, Bav.	1888	1908
5	Maurus Buchheit	St. Mary's, Pa.	1885	1908
6	Richard Graz	Allegheny, Pa.	1888	1909
7	Edmund Meister	Baltimore, Md.	1890	1909
8	Andrew Stauffer	St. Mary's, Pa.	1887	1909
9	Martin Schoetl	Bruckberg, Bav.	1884	1909
10	Lawrence McHale	Minersville, Pa.	1885	1909

2 Novices

PROFESSED BROTHERS:

1	Francis Zwiesler.....	1855	1878
2	Leonard Metzger.....	1861	1882
3	Charles Eckel.....	1853	1883
4	Gilbert Koberzynski.....	1840	1883
5	Aloysius Forenbach.....	1846	1883
6	Celestine Wiegerle.....	1852	1883
7	Albert Popp.....	1863	1888
8	Maurus Lobenhofer.....	1870	1891
9	Benedict Marschall.....	1860	1891
10	Placidus Spoetl.....	1870	1891
11	Willibald Marschall.....	1868	1892



Community at Belmont Abbey

<i>Name</i>	<i>Born</i> <i>Years</i>	
Bernard Geil.....	1871	1893
Joseph Ringelstætter.....	1872	1894
Boniface Schreiber.....	1877	1895
Louis Marschall.....	1861	1895
George Pøllath.....	1876	1896
Francis Buss.....	1875	1896
William Murray.....	1851	1899
Leo Kopp.....	1881	1901
Vincent Melber.....	1871	1902
Felix Keilhacker.....	1883	1905
Christian Hierl.....	1870	1907
Simon Keilhacker.....	1887	1907
Ægidius Seier.....	1877	1909
Frederic Schleid.....	1885	1909
Mark Proegl.....	1892	1910
Lawrence Bittel.....	1881	1910
Fidelis Kuhn.....	1865	1910

4 Novices

2 Oblates

SUMMARY

Abbot-Bishop.....	1
Priests.....	33
Clerics in Minor Orders.....	10
Novices.....	2
Brothers Professed.....	28
Novices.....	4
Oblates.....	2

Total number of Members 80

Colleges and Parishes of Belmont Abbey

Students Pupils Souls

College at Belmont Abbey.....	115		
Seminary " "	18		
Benedictine College—Savannah	120		
Benedictine College—Richmond (building)			
St. Joseph's Industrial School, Bristow, Va.		55	
Belmont Abbey Parish			450
St. Mary's, Richmond, Va.....			2100
Sacred Heart, Savannah, Ga.			1810
St. Peter's, Charlotte, N. C.....			890
Salisbury, Statesville, High Point, etc....			285
Greensboro, N. C.....			190
Winston-Salem, N. C.....			220
Bristow, Va.			150
Manassas, Va.			180
Stations not mentioned.....			215
SUMMARY	253	55	6490

Under the spiritual administration of the Benedictine Fathers of Belmont are :

1. Motherhouse, Sisters of Mercy, Belmont, N. C.
2. Motherhouse, Benedictine Sisters, Bristow, Va.
3. Sisters of Mercy at Charlotte and Salisbury.
4. Sisters of Charity, Greensboro, N. C.
5. Benedictine Sisters, Richmond, Va.

Academies for young ladies, 2
Orphanages (girls), 2
Hospitals, 2

PAPAL BULL

Erecting Belmont Abbey into an Abbatia Nullius

PIUS EPISCOPUS, SERVUS SERVORUM DEI.

Ad perpetuam rei memoriam.

Apostolicam in singulas Orbis terrarum Ecclesias providentiam, paterna sollicitudine protendentes, id etiam animadvertimus atque adeo ad majoram Dei gloriam, animarum salutem et Religiosorum ordinum decus et incrementum perspeximus fore valde opportunum ut peramplus Carolinae Septentrionalis apostolicus vicariatus in foederatis Americae statibus iam aptius commodiusque ad Abbatiam nullius erigendam circumscribatur. Idcirco perjucunde excepimus preces Nobis delatas a Venerabili Fratre Nostro Leone Haid Episcopo titulari Messenensi ac Carolinae Septentrionalis Vicario Apostolico, suffragiis tam Eminentissimi Cardinalis Archiepiscopi Baltimorensis, quam Apostolici in foederatis Americae statibus Delegati suffultas, quibus proponebat dismembrationem perampli Carolinae Septentrionalis apostolici vicariatus in foederatis Americae statibus. Cum in praesentibus rerum adjunctis nondum possit, juxta constitutionem Nostram incipientem *Sapienti consilio* die vigesima nona Junii anni Domini millesimi nongentesimi octavi editam, in dioecsim, seu dioeceses erigi, atque ita ad ius commune deduci; Nos, haec omnia probe noscentes, ut quaedam saltem eiusdem territorii pars sub communi Ecclesiae lege statim ponatur, ad majoram Dei gloriam et animarum salutem procurandam atque ad splendidius Ordinis Sancti Benedicti decus in illis regionibus obtinendum, territorium illud, quod finibus inferius statuendis continetur, e vicariatu Apostolico Carolinae Septentrionalis sejungere, ac regimini et jurisdictioni coenobii, cui nomen Sanctae Mariae Auxiliatricis apud Bel-

mont, Ordinis Sancti Benedicti, subjicere, simulque in abbatiam nullius erigere in eum qui sequitur modum decrevimus. Quae cum ita sint, exquisita prius Venerabilium quoque Fratrum Nostrorum Sanctae Romanae Ecclesiae Cardinalium, qui negotiis sive consistorialibus sive propagationis fidei expediendis praepositi sunt, sententia, ac suppleto, quatenus opus sit, quorum intersit, aut sua interesse praesumant consensu, de Apostolicae potestatis plenitudine totam regionem, quae civilibus constat comitatibus, Gaston, Lincoln, Cleveland, Rutherford, Polk, Catawba, Burke, et McDowell nuncupatis ab universo territorio memorati vicariatus apostolici Carolinae Septentrionalis, ad quod hactenus pertinuit, dividimus et sejungimus, ipsamque coenobio Sanctae Mariae Auxiliatricis Belmontensis pariter denominandam, sub regimine et jurisdictione Abbatis pro tempore ejusdem Monasterii erigimus ac constituimus, ita ut praedictum coenobium cum adnexo territorio deinceps ad omnes juris effectus sit vere et proprie nullius dioecesis, Sedique Apostolicae immediate subjectum. Hujus autem Monasterii Sanctae Mariae Auxiliatricis Belmontensis, ecclesiam, in abbatialem ecclesiam erectae abbatae nullius iisdemque servatis invocatione ac titulo, constituimus, item in eo sedem et dignitatem abbatialem ad instar episcopalis dignitatis erigimus et instituimus, pro uno abbate, a coenobii titulo designando, qui ecclesiae monasterio ac regioni uti supra definitae praesit, atque jura omnia, officia, munia habeat et exerceat, iisdemque honoribus ac praerogativis, quibus Praesules cathedralium ecclesiarum in America Septentrionali utatur et gaudeat, iis tamen exceptis, quae titulo oneroso, vel peculiari indulto obtenta fuerint, aliisque, quae de jure privative ad Episcopos pertineant. Concedimus etiam ejusdem abbatae nullius abbati cetera jura et privilegia, quae abbatibus nullius dioecesis ex ordine Sancti Benedicti sunt communia, quibusve apostolico indulto frui solent; capitulo autem abbatiali, ex monachis memoratis coenobii, quum fieri poterit, constituendo, onera imponimus atque jura et privilegia largimur, ad quae tenentur et quibus fruuntur monachi capitulorum aliarum abbatialium ecclesiarum nullius dioecesis ex Ordine Sancti Benedicti. Cetera vero omnia quae res, personas, jura, officia, seminarium abbatiale, taxam ab abbate solvendam, aliaque id genus respiciunt, statuimus ut firma et rata secundum canonicas sanctiones, in primis Concilii Tridentini decreta, ac recentiores Sanctae Sedis decisiones,

quae illas praesertim regiones attingunt, manere debeant. Et cum necesse sit ut congruis proventibus et redditibus dotatio hujus novae abbatae nullius constituatur, pro abbatis mensa, capituli et seminarii dote, divini cultus piorumque operum expensis, redditus et bona attribuimus, quibus coenobium ipsum Sanctae Mariae Auxiliatricis Belmontensis actu potitur et gaudet, quaeque in posterum obtinebit. In hac tamen abbatia nullius erigenda et finibus supra statutis eidem assignandis expresse Nobis et apostolicae Sedi facultatem reservamus quamlibet dismembrationem, seu novam ipsius abbatae circumscriptionem, libere decernendi quandocunque hoc in Domino opportunum visum fuerit, nullo in id abbatis et Capituli abbatialis ecclesiae assensu exquisito, neve ulla attributa territorii compensatione. Praeterea volumus, praefatus Leo Haid, praesens Abbas coenobii Sanctae Mariae Auxiliatricis Belmontensis, sit et maneat primus Abbas novae erectae abbatae nullius, atque ipse ejusve in abbatiali dignitate successores exerceant quoque munia et officia vicarii apostolici in reliqua regione Carolinae Septentrionalis ad ejusdem et Apostolicae Sedis nutum, quo vero hoc duplex munus abbatis nempe et vicarii apostolici, rite obire valeant, et quousque haec rerum conditio permanebit, facultatem eis tribuimus residentiam canonicam in abbatae nullius et in vicariatus apostolici Carolinae Septentrionalis territorio alterius, discreto ipsorum judicio, statuendi. Praesentes quoque Litteras de subreptionis vel obreptionis, aut nullitatis vitio, seu intentionis Nostrae, aut quolibet alio defectu quantumvis juridico et substantiali, etiam ex eo, quod omnes et singulis in praemissis quomodolibet interesse habentes, vel habere praesumentes, praesentibus non consenserint, ac causas propter quas praemissa omnia et singula emanarunt minime sufficienter examinatae fuerint et ex quocumque alio capite notari, impugnari, invalidari vel in controversiam reduci ac eas semper et perpetuo validas et efficaces existere et fore, suosque plenarios et integros effectus sortiri et obtinere, atque ab omnibus ad quos spectat inviolabiliter observari debere et si secus super his a quoquam quavis auctoritate, scienter vel ignoranter contigerit attentari irritum et inane esse et fore volumus atque decernimus. Quocirca Venerabili Fratri Nostro Diomedio Falconio, Archiepiscopo titulari Larisensi, atque in foederatis Americae Septentrionalis statibus Apostolico Delegato, per easdem praesentes committimus et mandamus,

quatenus ad exequutionem praemissorum omnium procedat, opportunas et necessarias ei tribuendo facultates, quibus is alteram quoque personam in ecclesiastica dignitate constitutam subdelegare valeat, ita quod idem Diomedes Antistes, ejusve subdelegata persona ea cuncta possit ordinare, disponere, declarare ac etiam definitive, appellatione super quacumque quaestione, si qua forsitan inciderit, penitus remota decernere, quae opportuerint ad totum hoc negotium probe feliciterque perficiendum. Non obstantibus Nostris et Cancellariae Apostolicae regulis de jure quaesito non tollendo ac Lateranensis Concilii novissime celebrati, dismembrationes perpetuas, nisi in casibus a jure permissis fieri prohibente, aliisque etiam in Synodalibus, provincialibus generalibusque conciliis editis vel edendis, specialibus vel generalibus Constitutionibus et Ordinationibus Apostolicis, dictaeque Abbatiae etiam juramento confirmatione Apostolica vel quavis firmitate alia roboratis statutis et consuetudinibus privilegiis quoque, indultis et concessionibus quavis individua mentione dignis, quibus omnibus et singulis pro illorum sufficienti derogatione de illis eorumque totis tenoribus specialis, specifica, non autem per clausulas generales idem importantes mentio habenda foret, praesentibus pro sufficienter expressis habentes, illis alias in suo robore permansuris, latissime et plenissime specialiter et expresse pro hac vice dumtaxat, harum serie derogamus, ceterisque contrariis quibuscumque. Volumus autem quod dictus Diomedes Antistes et ejus subdelegata persona infra sex menses ad hanc Apostolicam Sedem transmittere teneatur exemplar authentica forma exaratum quorumvis decretorum in exequutione ipsa ferendorum ut haec etiam in Archivio Congregationis Consistorialis ad perpetuam rei memoriam et normam conserventur. Volumus etiam quod praesentium Litterarum transumptis, etiam impressis, manu tamen alicujus Notarii publici subscriptis, et sigillo alicujus personae in ecclesiastica dignitate constitutae munitis, eadem prorsus fides in judicio et extra illud adhibeatur, quae eisdem praesentibus adhiberetur si forent exhibitae vel extensae. Nullo ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam Nostrae dismembrationis, exceptionis, erectionis, institutionis, concessionis indulti, decreti, mandati, derogationis et voluntatis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire; si quis autem hoc attentare praesumpserit indignationem Omnipotentis Dei ac Beatorum Petri et Pauli

Apostolorum Ejus se noverit incursum. Datum Romae apud Sanctum Petrum anno Domini millesimo nongentesimo decimo, sexto idus Junii, Pontificatus Nostri anno septimo.

PIUS PP. X.



